Course: **POST 309 – Editing the Feature Film**
Section: **601 – Spring 2021**
Class Number: 30323
Meeting Time: Tuesdays 1:30 PM – 4:45 PM
Location: REMOTE

Instructor: Brian Mellen
Email: bmellen@cdm.depaul.edu
Office: REMOTE
Office Hours: Tuesdays – **12:00 PM – 1:30 PM Zoom Meeting by Appt. Only**

POST 309 - Editing the Feature Film

Course Description:

In this course, students will be introduced to the specialized post-production workflow of editing the feature film. Topics will include: understanding the script notes, organizing the project, editing scenes with a focus on performance and character arcs, working with sound effects and music, performing a temp mix, breaking the film into reels, and producing deliverables for the composer, sound editor, and color correction.

Learning Goals:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be expected to:
- Understand and utilize script notes
- Organize a feature-length film
- Compose scenes with a focus on performance and character arcs
- Create a temp sound mix using dialogue, sound effects, and temp music
- Break a film into reels
- Produce deliverables for the composer, sound editor, and color correction
- GRAD STUDENTS: Supervise the final mix and color correction

Prerequisites: POST 200

Software: Adobe Premiere Pro

Adobe Creative Cloud Licenses Provided by DePaul

Required Materials/Equipment:

An external hard drive (USB 3.0 or Thunderbolt or better) with a minimum of 150 GB

*It is very important that you have your own external hard drive, so that you can save your personal projects and media on it. **Exceptions for missed work due to data loss will not be granted.***

Required Textbooks: **ON FILM EDITING** – Author: DMYTRYK
                            IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE – Author: MURCH

LinkedIn Learning: Subscription is included with tuition.

Changes to Syllabus:

This syllabus is subject to change as necessary during the quarter.

Drop Dates:

    Monday, April 5: Last day to add (or swap) classes
    Friday, April 9: Last day to drop classes with no penalty
    Saturday, April 10: Grade of "W" assigned for classes dropped on or after
    Friday, May 14: Last day to withdraw from class

Course Schedule:

WEEK 1 (March 30th)
    Lecture: Setting Up and Organizing Your Project
    Assign Project for the Quarter
    Read: Bernadette Script (before next class)
    Quiz #1 (Due April 6th)
    Discussion Post #1: Details posted on D2L. (Due April 6th)

Week 2 (April 6th) – DUE: Editing Exercise 1
    Lecture: The Difference Between an Assembly, Rough Cut, Fine Cut
    Do: Editing Exercise 1
    Read: Dmytryk, **Chapters 1 – 4**; Murch, **Pages 1 – 9**
    Quiz #2: (Due April 13th)
    Discussion Post #2: Details posted on D2L. (Due April 13th)

Week 3 (April 13th) – DUE: Project (Organized)
    Lecture: Character Arcs
    Read: Dmytryk, **Chapters 5 – 7**; Murch, **Pages 10 – 20**
    Quiz #3: (Due April 20th)
    Discussion Post #3: Details posted on D2L. (Due April 20th)

Week 4 (April 20th) – DUE: Editing Exercise 2
    Do: Editing Exercise 2
    Read: Dmytryk, **Chapters 8 – 9**; Murch, **Pages 21 – 31**
    Quiz #4: (Due April 27th)
    Discussion Post #4: Details posted on D2L. (Due April 27th)

Week 5 (April 27th)
    Read: Dmytryk, **Chapters 10 – 12**; Murch, **Pages 32 – 42**
    Discussion Post #5: Details posted on D2L. (Due May 4th)

Week 6 (May 4th) – DUE: Project (Rough Cut 1)
    Do: Exchange Scenes (Footage & Projects)
    Screen Project Rough Cut 1
    Read: Dmytryk, **Chapters 13 – 14**; Murch, **Pages 46 – 50**
    Quiz #5: (Due May 11th)

Week 7 (May 11th) – DUE: Editing Exercise 3
    Read: Dmytryk, **Chapter 15**; Murch, **Pages 52 – 63**
    Quiz #6: (Due May 18th)
    Discussion Post #6: Details posted on D2L. (Due May 18th)

Week 8 (May 18th) – DUE: Project (Rough Cut 2 by May 25th)
    Lecture: Breaking a Film into Reels and Delivering Deliverables

Do: Editing Exercise 3
Read: Dmytryk, **Chapter 16-17**; Murch, **Pages 64 – 72**
Quiz #7: (Due May 25th)

Week 9 (May 25th)

Screen Project Rough Cut 2
Lecture: Supervising the Final Mix and Color Correction
Workshop: Project
Discussion Post #7: Details posted on D2L. (Due June 1st)

Week 10 (June 1st) – DUE: Fine Cut (Fine Cut by 06/04)

Screen: Bernadette (Official Cut)

Finals Week (Tues, June 8th) – DUE: Project Deliverables and Editing Paper

Upload Project Deliverables to the Google Drive by 11:59 PM on Tuesday, June 8th

Grading:

Project **Organization**	10%
Project **Rough Cut 1**	10%
Project **Rough Cut 2**	10%
Project Fine Cut	20%
Project **Deliverables**	10%
Editor Profile Paper	10%
Editing Exercises	10%
Attendance/Participation	10%
Discussion Posts	10%

A = 93-100 **A-** = 90-92
B+ = 87-89 **B** = 83-86 **B-** = 80-82
C+ = 77-79 **C** = 73-76 **C-** = 70-72
D+ = 67-69 **D** = 60-66
F = 0-59
A indicates excellence, **B** indicates good work, **C** indicates satisfactory work, **D** work is unsatisfactory in some respect, **F** is substantially unsatisfactory work.

Participation in Discussion Forum: 10% of your total grade (1% per week, 2% for week 9). You must post to receive any credit.

Discussion Forum Rubric (A weekly grade will be given):
100% = 1 posting and 2 replies to other posters per week
75% = 1 posting and 1 reply to other posters per week
50% = 1 posting and 0 replies to other posters per week
0% = 0 posting and 0 replies to other posters per week

LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

A Note About Online Classes:

This quarter presents unique challenges to our program at DePaul and our class. Please be patient. There will be technical issues that arise that we wouldn't normally have to deal with because this course is online and also because it's never been taught online before.

Even though this class will be given online, we will treat this class as much as we possibly can like an in-person class. I will have normal Offices Hours where you can meet with me. I will respond to emails as quickly as I can.

Please understand though, now that we are online and many of us working from home, I will not expect 24-hour access to you and in return, you should not expect the same for me. The best ways to reach me are during Office Hours and email. For more urgent issues, Office Hours are best. Otherwise, you can expect a 24-48 hour turnaround on emails. 48 hours would be the max. Though I am working from home as many of us are, I'm teaching 2 other classes at DePaul and 1 at another school. For our mental health we're all going to need to allow ourselves to take breaks from work and school.

Likewise, please make sure your family and friends understand that you are still in school if you are at home. Make it clear that you will not be able to run errands or help out during normal scheduled class. And make sure you establish a set time when you'll be working on school work for this class and others.

Furthermore, don't use online distance as an excuse to be rude to each other or to me in while interacting with your fellow classmates in this course. I am aware that not everyone acts the same way when they're not physically in the same room and instead interacting online. Let's be kind and civil to each other during this time.

I'm concerned about our wellbeing this quarter I want to make sure you know that this is priority while taking my class.

Electronic Devices:

There is a no tolerance policy on electronic device usage during class. Cell phone/tablet usage and/or internet usage during class will result in 0 attendance points for the day. It is distracting to others around you. You may take notes on a computer using word or text edit (do not browse the internet) but not on a cellphone/tablet.
Cell Phones/On Call:

If you have a cell phone to class, it must be off or set to a silent mode. Should you need to answer a call during class, students must leave the room or mute your computer's microphone in an undisruptive manner. Out of respect to fellow students and the professor, texting is never allowable in class. If you are required to be on call as part of your job, please advise me at the start of the course.

Student responsibilities:

Each student is responsible for their time management and for meeting the expectations in the syllabus. The instructor is not responsible for reminding students of assignment deadlines in class. In the event of an absence, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor for an assignment sheet detailing any homework. If an assignment is listed on the syllabus you are still responsible for completing the assignment on time.

Also, eventually all hard drives fail. Make sure you backup your projects at least twice for this class and all future projects. If your hard drive fails and you didn't backup your project, no extensions will be given. No accommodations are typically made in the real world for lack of preparation and in order to prepare you for the job market, no accommodations will be made in this course for lost data.

Deadlines:

Video production requires strict adherence to deadlines, therefore late assignments will not be accepted for grading and written feedback will be given at the instructors discretion. You will not be eligible for an A in the class unless you turn in all assignments on time.

Attendance, Participation, and Professionalism:

This course demands class participation - attendance is mandatory. Please sign into Zoom meetings at least five minutes before class start time. Students arriving to Zoom meetings more than 15 minutes late, or leaving before class is dismissed will be considered absent. You are allowed one (1) unexcused absence. After that, a one letter deduction for each absence will be taken from your final course grade. Missing three (3) or more classes will result in a failing grade. Excessive tardiness will also be penalized. If you are sick, have a family emergency, or conflict with work, please tell me ASAP so that I know what is going on and I can help you out. Addressing these issues weeks after the absence occurred will still result in an unexcused absence.

A professional and academic attitude is expected throughout this course. Measurable examples of non-academic or unprofessional attitude include but are not limited to: talking to others when the instructor is speaking, mocking another's opinion, cell phones ringing, emailing, texting or using the internet whether on a phone or computer. **Furthermore, disruptive behavior in Zoom will result in your removal of the Zoom session and an unexcused absence for the day.** If any issues arise a student may be asked to speak privately with the instructor. The professor will work with the Dean of Students Office to navigate such student issues. Also, adhering to the courses cellphone and computer policy is factored into this portion of your grade as well. SEE ABOVE.

Assignments:

You will submit all of your assignments to the appropriate Google Drive folder. The organization of your editing projects is a significant part of your grade. **LATE PROJECTS will not receive credit**.

Quiz:

Periodic quizzes will be given throughout the quarter testing you on important information from lecture and tutorials. These could be given anytime during class and many times happen at the beginning of class. Make sure you come to class on time. If you miss them you forfeit credit.

Editing Exercises:

Editing exercises will be completed during class time. Editing exercises that are turned in on time can be made up and turned in again for more points; however, **all resubmissions must be turned in within two weeks of the due date**. Missed editing exercises can be made up and turned in before the start of the following class. If an editing exercise is missed, it is the responsibility of the student to watch the missed lecture on D2L and turn in their makeup assignment before the start of the following class. For your convenience, all lectures are recorded and saved on D2L.

Editor Profile Paper:

Students will be required to write a 2-3 page paper comparing and contrasting the classes' cut of Bernadette and the official edit. More information will be given on D2L about this particular assignment as the quarter progresses.

University Policies

Online Course Evaluations:
Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable the instructor to continuously tailor teaching methods and course content to meet the learning goals of the course and the academic needs of the students. They are a requirement of the course and are key to continue to provide you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous; the instructor and administration do not track who entered what responses. A program is used to check if the student completed the evaluations, but the evaluation is completely separate from the student's identity. Since 100% participation is our goal, students are sent periodic reminders over three weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Students complete the evaluation online in CampusConnect.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:
This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. More information can be found at http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/. If you have any questions be sure to consult with your professor.

Academic Policies:
All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the University Academic Calendar. Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found at: cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment.

Students with Disabilities:
Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential.

To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) at: csd@depaul.edu.
Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD)
Lewis Center 1420
25 East Jackson Blvd.
Phone number: (312) 362-8002
Fax: (312) 362-6544
TTY: (773) 325-7296